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EAST EUROPE BRANCH NOTES

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New Yugoslav Minister of Interior?

The announcement that Luka Banovic, current Secretary for Internal Affairs, will be a candidate for the new Federal

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Assembly suggests that he will lose his position when the new government is selected next month. The new constitution prohibits a member of the assembly from concurrently holding a cabinet post.

Banovic has held his current office since 1971, and he thus may be due for rotation. In the absence of his nomination to any other important party or state position his election to the Federal Assembly would represent a demotion. We have seen no dissatisfaction expressed with his performance. Belgrade is, however, beefing up its security apparatus and may not view Banovic as adequate for the job.

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#### ROMANIA

##### Ceausescu Meets Brezhnev in Warsaw

According to a Tass release, Ceausescu met today with Brezhnev for a "comradely" discussion on bilateral relations. If past meetings are any indication, the discussion was probably long, substantive and somewhat acrimonious. Moscow's displeasure over Bucharest's independent Mideast policy, differences over the force reduction talks, and Bucharest's increasingly public opposition to the drive to convene a World Communist conference are just a few of the problems which may have been discussed. Perhaps in anticipation of rough sledding in Warsaw, a number of Romanian fora have recently heaped appreciation on Ceausescu's "correct" domestic and foreign policies.

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